

**From:** Clay, John  
**To:** 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'  
**Date:** 12/6/01 2:35pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement is Myopic

Dear Sir/Madam:

The DOJ's settlement with Microsoft is myopic, short-changes our population including other software companies and business in general, and rewards Microsoft for its monopolistic practices. It reminds me of parents who cave in to their children when they (the parents) most need to set good examples and demonstrate an unwillingness to accept unacceptable behavior. Microsoft management must be howling with laughter as a result of the amazing good fortune to have the DOJ punishment require them to increase their present and future stranglehold on the PC industry by providing free software to an, as yet, under exploited market sector - the same software that they would generate regardless of the settlement. Astonishing logic.

It is imperative that the DOJ send a clear message that Microsoft's monopolistic practices will not be tolerated. That message needs to include enough real monetary penalties that it is unmistakable. It also must not in any way be capable of assisting Microsoft, particularly by growing more consumers for their product. If Microsoft is to help poorer school districts then it should be in the form of direct funding, not an "in kind" donation of their product offering.

John M. Clay  
Tallahassee, FL